REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 8, and 14-20 are amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Claims 1-20 are pending. By amending the claims, applicants are not conceding that the claims are unpatentable over the art cited by the Examiner and are not conceding that the claims are non-statutory under 35 U.S.C. 102, as the claim amendments are only for the purpose of facilitating expeditious prosecution. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all claims in view of the amendments above and the remarks that follow.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as unpatentable over Haydt (Pub. No. US 2004/0019882 A1). Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are patentable over Haydt because Haydt does not teach or suggest all elements of the claims for the reasons argued below.

Claim 1 recites: "receiving an allocate request from a queue pair; finding a free buffer in a free pool; determining whether a number of buffers allocatable to the queue pair is greater than zero; deciding whether a number of buffers allocated to an operation type is less than a maximum; and allocating the free buffer to the queue pair if the queue pair requests the free buffer for an operation having the operation type and the determining and the deciding are true."

In contrast, Haydt at [0010] describes that "one or more operations are inserted into one or more work queues." The Haydt "operations" do not teach or suggest the allocate request of claim 1, so Haydt does not teach or suggest "receiving an allocate request from a queue pair," as recited in claim 1.

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Haydt at [0047] describes that "valid entries on a transmit queue include NoOp, send, RDMA write, RDMA read, and bind," which does not teach or suggest "finding a free buffer in a free pool," as recited in claim 1 because NoOp, send, RDMA write, RDMA read, and bind are instructions or operations and not free buffers in a free pool.

Haydt at [0035] describes "a buffer key is used with a scatter/gather list entry to identify a virtual address range. A buffer can contain either application data or transport addresses. Each queue pair (i.e., work queues organized as send and receive queue pairs) contains a base local key index and base remote key index." Thus, Haydt does not teach or suggest "allocating the free buffer to the queue pair if the queue pair requests the free buffer for an operation having the operation type and the determining and the deciding are true," as recited in claim 1 because in Haydt the relationship of a queue pair to the base local key index and the base remote key index is unconditional and not conditional on a queue pair request, a number of buffers allocatable to the queue pair, an number of buffers allocated to an operation type, and a maximum, as recited in claim 1.

Thus, Haydt does not teach or suggest all elements of claim 1. Claims 8 and 15 include similar elements as argued above for claim 1 and are patentable over Haydt for similar reasons as those argued above. Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-20 are dependent on claims 1, 8, and 15, respectively, and are patentable for the reasons argued above, plus the elements in the claims.

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Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (651-645-7135) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0465.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Carnevale, et al.

By their Representative,

Date: October 12, 2007
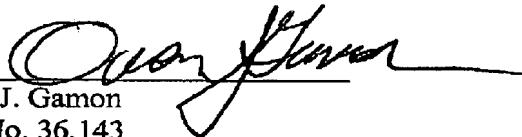
Owen J. Gamon
Reg. No. 36,143
(651) 645-7135

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law
Dept. 917, Bldg. 006-1
3605 Highway 52 North
Rochester, MN 55901

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Registration No. 36,143

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